Northwood Presbyterian Church
2875 State Road 580
LOYAL TO HIS CHURCH
"Count on Me!"
A Stephen Ministry Congregation

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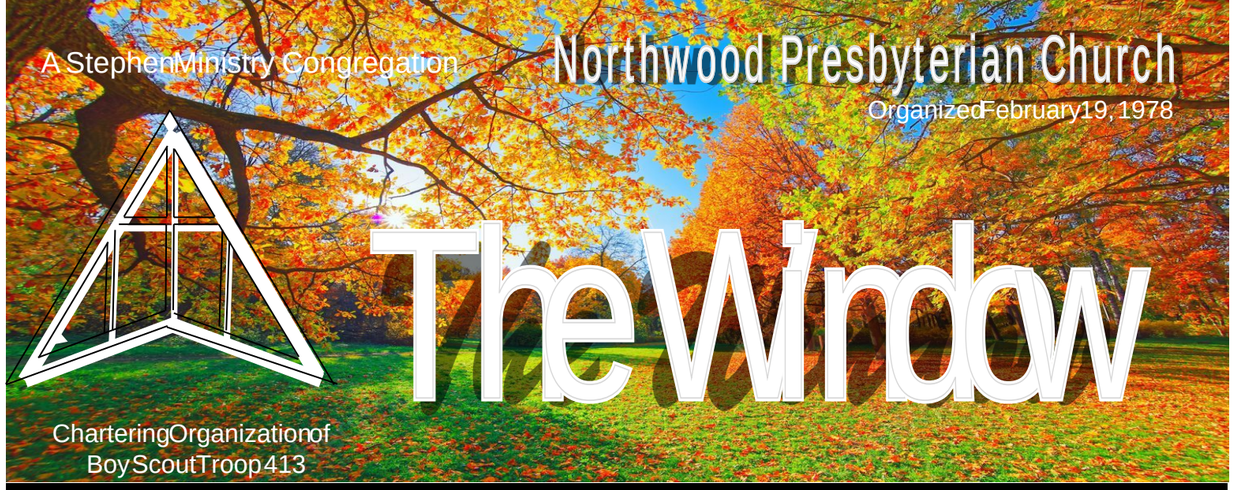
2026 Wonderful Wednesdays Dinner & Program

October 28 - November 18
6:00pm
Fall Program-
"Northwood in Mission & Ministry"

Our Wednesdays and You (W.A.Y.) meal gatherings are back! They provide a happy harvest of friendship and opportunity for the whole family. Reservation forms are located in the church office and on the bulletin board in the church hallway. On the tables at each meal will be our 5-cents-a-meal jars which benefit the hungry locally and worldwide. Please remember to invite your friends, family and neighbors to join you--Their first meal is free! For more information on any of our Wednesday programs contact the church office at (727) 796-8090. Come and get involved in a Wonderful Wednesday activity filled with fellowship and friends. Here is some of what is going on each Wednesday.

- Dinner and Program 6:00-7:00pm
- **Youth Group** in the Youth Room (following the dinner)
- **Chancel Choir** rehearsal 6:45-8:30 pm.





November 2026
Volume 36, No. 10

2875 State Road 580, Clearwater, FL 33761
727-796-8090 Main Office ~ 727-723-7679 Preschool Before & After Care
www.northwoodpc.org

The Christian Wallet

"Sell your possessions and give to the poor.
Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out,
a treasure in heaven that will never fail,
where no thief comes near and no moth destroys."
Luke 12:33 NIV

Dedication Sunday is November 15th

Dear Members and Friends of Northwood,

Each Fall, and at other times of the year, we emphasize the importance of our financial giving to the church. Giving is one of the hallmarks of a Christian's commitment. Our 2027 sermon stewardship series to help us consider our giving for the coming year is entitled, THE CHRISTIAN WALLET.

Every Christian knows that we are called to love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength. But what about our wallet? As we prayerfully consider our financial commitments to Northwood, our Stewardship Team prays that for 2027 you will take a step of faith by increasing your pledge/gift to the church. The wonderful things done through Northwood are not accomplished without the support of significant volunteer and financial commitments.

We need everyone to consider turning in the enclosed 2027 pledge card on Sunday, November 15th or soon thereafter. Your pledge can be adjusted at any point by contacting the church office and speaking to Sandy Kallin, Northwood's Bookkeeper. Every pledge card helps us in our planning for the coming year and every gift counts!

Finally, there are a growing number of people who give regularly by utilizing our electronic online giving. All you need to do to take advantage of this method of giving is to go to the church website, www.northwoodpc.org and click on the "Giving" tab at the top of the page. There are good instructions there to lead you through making a gift online. Contact the church office if we can help with any questions. Thank you to those who faithfully use the Giving Stations in the hallways or mail your gift as well.

As we all plan our giving to Christ's church for the coming year, let me say on behalf of our Session and Stewardship Team, thank you for your generosity even now and in the coming year.

Your Pastor and Friend,
Chris Curvin

At-A-Glance
November 2026

This Month at Northwood

Sunday, November 1: Blanket Sunday
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Wednesday, November 4:
6:00 P.M. WAY Dinner & Program

Sunday, November 8:
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Wednesday, November 11:
6:00 P.M. WAY Dinner & Program

Sunday, November 15: Dedication Sunday
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
9:45 A.M. Discovering Northwood Presentation
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Wednesday, November 18:
6:00 P.M. WAY Dinner & Program

Sunday, November 22:
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Thursday & Friday, Nov. 26 & 27:
Office Closed in Observance of Thanksgiving

Sunday, November 29:
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

The Window

Published monthly by
Northwood Presbyterian
Church, Edited by Emily Cantin

Submissions:
If you have information that you would like to be considered for the newsletter, e-mail communications@northwoodpc.org, or place it in Emily Cantin's box in the church office. The deadline is the 3rd Monday of the month.

Church Office Hours
We will be open Monday-Friday from 8:30am to 3:00pm. All staff members continue to be available via email or phone regardless of the office schedule.

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Church Staff Contact Information

Staff members are available to answer any questions you might have regarding church related programs through our office phone system. Provided below are the phone extension numbers for most of our staff who are full-time. If you don't see a phone extension we provide an email contact for you. If you call the church office when the lines are busy or the office is closed, you will be prompted to use the Dial By Name Directory ***OR*** *the staff member's extension number to leave a message. The church number is still 796-8090.*

- Chris Curvin, Pastor x2007
- Stephanie Carson, Traditional Music x2009
- David Furr, Organist, dmfurr35679@gmail.com
- Taryn Lumia, Contemporary Music, taryn@northwoodpc.org
- Jarrett Mattson, Interim Youth Team Leader
  youthdirector@northwoodpc.org
- Emily Cantin, Dir. of Communications x2001
- Sandy Kallin, Bookkeeper x2005
- Roxane Fineo, Business Administrator x2003
- Dianna Burpee, Director of Schools x2010
- Drew Milano, Sound & Tech, worship@northwoodpc.org
- Aidan Murray, Facilities/Maintenance x2002

Around Northwood

Get Involved

Blanket Sunday– November 1



Blanket Sunday is November 1, 2026. Every year we collect blankets for Beth-El families who live in such poor and challenging conditions. They use the blankets for more than warmth. They use them as room dividers and other means of privacy. Thank you in advance for your generous contributions to such a worthwhile cause. Please call the church office @ 727-796-8090 if you have any questions.

Music Ministry's Annual Garage Sale



Our annual Music Ministry Garage Sale is just around the corner. The sale will take place on January 14, 15 and 16, 2027 from 8am–2pm. We accept most items except for TV's, entertainment centers or regular appliances. We are also looking for more volunteers to set-up, sort, price, cashier, bag, run security and clean-up. We need oversize plastic shopping bags, wire hangers (dry cleaner type), pants hangers with 2 clips and wrapping material like newspaper or tissue paper. Drop-offs will begin on December 29, 2025 so please hold those items just a little longer. Your generosity continues to amaze us and the Music Program benefits greatly. More information will be coming about the drop-off times and pick-up opportunities in later publications. Contact Susan Curry (727) 709-8237 or e-mail susankcurry@verizon.net if you have any questions.

Christmas Music Events- Save the Dates!

- Ring, Sing & Mingle– December 6th at 4:00pm
- Christmas Cantata– December 13th at 10:00am (one worship Service)
- Christmas Eve Services– December 24th at 4:30pm & 7:00pm



Halloween Candy for Music Ministry

If you have leftover Halloween candy or find some good BOGO deals, the music ministry will gladly accept your donations. Thank you!

November 1st



Northwood Food Pantry



The Northwood Presbyterian Food Pantry is a mission that is supported totally by monetary gifts and donated non-perishable food from the congregation. Dedicated volunteers purchase food and also fill bags that are then given out to those less fortunate residents that come to the church for help.
Northwood depends on the generous support from all of us in order to sustain this ever growing demand. Please help us continue this important mission by donating whatever you can and as a caring congregation we together can feed the multitudes as Christ did.
Thank you for your faithful support of this ministry and mission of Northwood Presbyterian Church.

Food Pantry items needed: Canned Meat, Pasta Sauce, Beef Stew, Chili. Beef Ravioli, Spaghetti Sauce, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Tuna, Soup, Canned Vegetables, Canned Fruit

Peace & Global Witness Offering-- Thank You!

PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION

Sunday, October 4th, we received from our annual Peacemaking Offering a total of $1850.00. Eighty percent of the offering will be divided between Bridging Freedom and Samaritan Village, both organizations fighting against the sex trafficking of women and providing victims safety, healing and hope. The PCUSA will receive 20% of the offering. Thank you for your generosity!

Around Northwood

Get Involved

Northwood Photo Group—November 10



Would you like to start taking better pictures, and use photography as a way of exploring God's beauty? Please join us for the regular monthly meeting of the Northwood Photo Group on Tuesday, November 10th at 7:00pm in rooms 11 & 13. All are invited whether you're a beginner or an expert. If you have any questions, contact curtis.krueger@gmail.com or david@primeimagesinc.com.

The Project Group– November 24

If you sew, knit, crochet or craft with a mission purpose (e.g. make greeting cards), you are invited! The project group meets the 4th Tuesday of the month at 10:00am in room 13. We will meet November 24th. We make little dresses for Haiti, lap robes, walker bags, and stuffed teddy bears. The latter go to the ER at Countryside. New members are always welcome. Contact Marti Huff 727-503-3783 or Evelyn Towns 727-785-3743 with any questions.

Jane Sutton Book Club—November 16



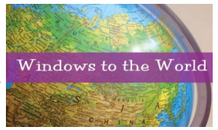
The Jane Sutton Book Club will be November 16th. The group usually meets meets the 4th Monday of the month at 10:00am but have moved the date this month to the 16th. Our book selection is The Ride of Her Life by Elizabeth Letts. We are a small group of readers who would welcome more voices as we discuss stories, characters and how they relate to our lives. We usually read contemporary fiction. Please join us for stimulating conversation and informal fellowship! If you are interested in joining, please contact Eleanor Cicerchi by email at ecicerchi@gmail.com or by phone 727-337-3183.

Home Communion

If you or someone you know is unable to attend church, either short-term or long-term to receive communion, Northwood's Home Communion Ministry Team would be happy to bring Communion to you. The Home Communion ministry, made up of both active and resting Elders and Deacons, have become involved in this important ministry of care and compassion to Northwood members who are homebound and unable to attend church. No preparation on your part is needed, we bring everything. We visit homes, rehab centers, hospitals, etc. For more information, please contact Jackie Koski at 727-726-5359.

Home Communion Ministers: Randy Ball, Elaine Cornillaud, Rachelle Cox, Mike Elza, Jackie Koski, Earle Lusk, Dee Rivers and Sandy Seckel.

Fun! Friends! Friday! The Ren Crew



The Ren Crew Friday Fellowship will meet on **Friday, November 13th at 10:30 in the sanctuary**. We are a group of adventuresome, young at heart adults who enjoy sharing fun with friends, old and new. In keeping with the theme, "Windows to the World", **Jessie & Earle Lusk will present "Classic Greece, with Crete and Santorini."** Following the program, we will enjoy lunch at a local restaurant. All are welcome! Join us, after having had a summer break, and treat yourself to Fun! and Friends! Contact Earle Lusk at or etlusk01@aol.com or 727-786-4535 for more information.

Advent Wreath Lighting



It's time to start thinking about Advent and what you will do to prepare for the birth of Jesus. Has it become a family tradition for you to light a candle on the Advent wreath at Northwood? Call now to schedule your time for this year! Never done it before? That's ok! We'll spend time with you showing you what to do and will provide you with the accompanying reading several days in advance so you can practice. Are you a single? No problem...invite a friend to join you for this meaningful act of worship.
Don't delay: Advent begins November 29 this year!
Volunteers can reach Linda Feller at 727-385-5629 or bikingringer@gmail.com.

Cedarkirk Womens Retreat—January 8-10



Leave your worries (and your chores!) behind! Join the ladies of Northwood for a spirit-filled weekend of fellowship, games, crafts, and canoeing. We're excited to announce that Debra Musgrave Cox will once again be joining us as our speaker! Reservation forms are available at the church office. Please reserve your spot NOW! The retreat will be held on Jan. 8-10, 2027.

Boy Scouts Troop 413 Wreath Sale

Scout Troop 413 is selling Christmas wreaths to help fund their Scouting activities.
If you are interested and able to support their efforts, please visit https://omt.sffwa.com/minisite/troop413 or contact their coordinator at 727-510-5701. Merry Christmas!



NEWS FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Thornwell

You're changing lives! Thank you for your gift of $500.00! Because of your kindness, we can provide safe homes for neglected children, family support and in-home therapy for families, education for students working toward graduation, and so much more.Thank you!!
Elizabeth Milhouse, VP for Mission Advancement

Foundation for International Missions

Thank you for your recent donation of $500 given in support of our mission at the New Hope Clinic in rural Honduras. This is a generous and thoughtful way to support this mission which depends on all of us for its continuation. Each gift makes it possible for Dr. Davila and his staff to provide life saving medical care to those who would otherwise have no access. Thank you!
Sincerely, Russ Martin, Board Member

Your Giving Matters



For in-person worship, the offering plates will not be passed, however, offering boxes are located in the narthex. For those worshiping online, your giving matters too. Your continued faithfulness to the mission and ministry of Northwood through your giving is critical as the church's expenses do not stop. Please commit to maintain your regular schedule of giving by mailing your gift or using one of the online platforms below for giving electronically:

1. Text NPCHURCH to 73256 and follow the prompts.
2. Visit www.northwoodpc.org and click on the giving tab.
3. Click "Give" under the *ChurchLife app* menu options

Per-Capita Apportionment

Every church shares in the administrative costs of the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) through the annual per capita assessment. Northwood's per-capita assessment is $40.76 per every active member and confirmed youth (communicant member). Please consider paying this administrative cost above and beyond your annual pledge/offering. You can contribute to the per-capita apportionment at any time during the year. To do so just write "per-capita" on the memo line of your check or mark an envelope accordingly. Thank you for your gift!

Memorial Gifts

In Memory of: *My Brother & Sister In-Law*
Given by: *Mary Torrisi*

Prayer Ministry

Roger Adkisson, Julie Bryant, Jeannette Holloway, Fred Inkles, Phillip Mackie, Mildred Martin, Robin MacLennan, Dave Pelham, David Smith.

Prayers and Christian Sympathies to:

- The Birch Family upon the news of the death of Sarah Birch on August 28.
- The Hunt Family upon the news of the death of Barbara Hunt on August 4.
- Dean Rabenstine & Family upon the news of the death of his wife, Pat Rabenstine, on October 8.
- The Keith Family upon the news of the death of Sally Keith on October 22.

Memorial Gifts

If you wish to make a gift to the church in honor or in memory of someone, please be sure to attach a blue Memorial Gift form to your contribution. Completing the form ensures that we have all the information necessary to properly direct the gift and acknowledge it to both you and the recipient. Forms are located near the memorial book in the Narthex or in the Church Office. Thank you for your assistance.



To our church family, friends, and brothers & sisters in Christ,
Words cannot express our heartfelt appreciation and thanks for the endless prayers, love, support, texts, get well cards, calls, and the meal ministry which were generated on our behalf over the past several weeks. The outpouring was overwhelming during our time of struggles following Jessie's heart attack. We could **truly** feel God's presence with us, especially during the most trying times and very difficult odds. That was directly tied to the unbelievable prayer support offered for us. Jessie's survival is a miracle in which God had His hand involved so many times! There is no doubt in our minds in the power of prayer! Thank you Northwood family and friends!
Earle & Jessie Lusk

Christian Education

Presbyterian Women

The Presbyterian Women's Sisters in Christ Circle will meet on the second Tuesday of every month at 10:00 am. This month our circle will meet on November 10th. We will continue in our study, *"United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other: Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians"* by Rhonda Mawhood Lee. Study books will be available and can be purchased for $7.00. For more information about how you can be involved, contact Patty Martin at bill.martin2@verizon.net or Sue Miskiewicz at susan.miskiewicz@yahoo.com



The Sisters in Christ PW Circle met on October 13th for Bible study, fellowship and giving. This month's donations were items for The Haven. In November, we will be collecting for The Pregnancy Center. All church women are welcome to attend.

Fresh Brewed

Fresh Brewed meets on the first Friday of the month at 10:30am in rooms 5&7. **We will meet November 6th.** Our book study is "Life Lessons from Ephesians" *by Max Lucado*. If you have any questions or need a book, please contact Louise Mylin at LVNM1@hotmail.com or 727-787-9868.

Bible Takeaways

Led by Emily Sutphin & Earle Lusk, this adult Education Class/Bible Study meets on **Thursday Mornings at 10:30am** for study and instruction on our study of Revelation. We will meet on **Sunday mornings at 10:00am** in room 8 for discussion of our Revelation study. Please join us as we look at this challenging and, yet, hopeful final book of the New Testament. All are welcome!

Nursery

The Nursery is available for childcare during both the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship Services. Our staff are screened and trained to provide safe, caring and entertaining supervision to your little ones while you attend Worship. If you have any questions, please contact Rachelle Cox at rachellecox1@gmail.com.

Nominating Committee

NOMINATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED. Do you know of someone you would like to see serving as Elder, Deacon or on the Nominating Committee for 2027? The current Nominating Committee will accept nominations for Church Officers now through November 1. **Remember to get the person's permission before nominating them.** Nomination forms may be returned to the church office.

I have the permission of

_____

to nominate him/her for the office of

Elder or Deacon or Nominating Committee 2027

(Please circle one)

2026 Nominating Committee: Tim Beaver, Louise Mylin, Cookie Roffey, Todd Adkisson, Vicki Parker, Kay Scheuerman

YOUTH MINISTRY
NORTHWOOD PRESBYTERIAN

Youth Ministry

The youth, which includes middle school, high school and college age students, will meet on Wednesday evenings for Youth Group at 6 pm in the youth room. Game night will meet on Fridays from 7pm-10pm in the youth room/FLC. **If you have any questions, please contact Jarrett Mattson at youthdirector@northwoodpc.org or 727-366-4200.**



WEDNESDAY YOUTH GROUP
Youth Group meets every Wednesday at 6pm in the youth room. There will be a lesson, group discussion, music and food.



GAME NIGHT - We meet on Fridays from 7pm-10pm in the youth room/FLC to play a variety of games such as board games, video games and sports activities including pickleball, basketball and kickball.



Rock the Universe - Save the date! January 22-23. All youth and college students are invited to join in on this amazing weekend of fun and faith! This trip will include a hotel stay for two nights and a 2-day park pass. Stay tuned for a sign-up and cost information in our Youth & Families weekly email.



Friendsgiving - Save the date! Wednesday, November 25th. Everyone bring a dish and your family and we will fellowship together! Sign up at youth group on Wednesdays.



Hurricane Ministry

The Hurricane Ministry of our church's Board of Deacons assists members in need of temporary housing during or after hurricanes or severe tropical storms. If you are able to share your home with members-in-need, please contact Karen Gipson at kgipson99@yahoo.com or the church office at 727-796-8090. If emailing, please use the subject "Hurricane Volunteer." Please include your name, address, phone number, email address, number of people you can accommodate, and whether you have pets.

With hurricane season approaching, we are all encouraged to prepare for a possible storm. A source for weather advisories is:
https://www.baynews9.com/fl/tampa/weather.
This guide has valuable information for Pinellas County
http://www.pinellascounty.org/emergency/.